

contain injunctions to prelates and barons to exact only reasonable aids and service from their tenants, and aim at regulating the position of the latter towards their lords, The jurisdiction of the great vassals over their men in criminal matters was greatly diminished, even the dvil jurisdiction was made to depend on the favour of the Crown.

The suppression of dangerous feudal immunities was carried only so far as to clear the way for the bringing all subjects under the royal power* Roger himself was of the feudal caste, proud of his French origin, and dependent on his great vassals for half his army, I Us Assist* cm knighthood shows a desire to form from the feudal landowners a close military caste. In favouring a *Jus Fmn-* *corum* for the knightly classes, he aimed at establishing a primogeniture which would keep the military vassals in small but wealthy aristocracy able to do their duty to the Crown, whereas the long-established *Jits Lun^bard&rum* by favouring subdivision had the effect of splitting up great estates and depressing landowners into the must* of the people,

The royal policy therefore went on to regularise the rights of the Crown over the great vassals

and to do the same, with the relations
of the under-
tenants with their overlords, The
rights of tint
great feudatories were prt'serwd in
Innng dimin-
ished, On the other hand the nobility
were largely
employed in the royal RTVJ«% as
justiciare and
household officers, and «?veti entered
the inner cir-